

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
TRSE-00 /069 W
-----180636Z 084672 /14

R 171530Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL MARSEILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1336
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
AMCONSUL LYON
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG
AMCONSUL NICE

UNCLAS MARSEILLE 0100

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, FR
SUBJECT: MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS --- LOCAL FIRST ROUND RESULTS

REF: MARSEILLE 0091

1. FIRST ROUND RESULTS HERE ACCORD CLOSELY WITH OUR
PREVIOUS REPORTING AND THAT OF EMBASSY. VOTER TURNOUT
HAS BEEN RELATIVELY HEAVY, THERE HAS BEEN SOME GAIN
FOR THE LEFT, THE INDIVIDUAL CONTESTS HAVE BEEN DOMINATED
BY LOCAL PERSONALITIES AND ISSUES RATHER THAN BY IDEOLOGY.

2. SIXTEEN OF THE CITIES REPORTED REFTEL HAVE COMPLETED
THE ELECTION PROCESS AND WILL NOT GO TO A SECOND TOUR.
IN TWELVE OF THEM THERE IS NO CHANGE IN POLITICAL HUE
AND THE PREVIOUS MAYOR HEADS THE WINNING LIST. THOSE
REMAINING ON THE LEFT ARE ARLES, MARTIGUES, AUBAGNE,
SETE, LA SEYNE, DRAGUIGNAN, NIMES, ALES, AVIGNON, MARVEJOLS
AND VILLEFRANCHE ROUEGUE. THE MAJORITY HELD ON TO SALON AND AN
APOLITICAL GROUP WITH MICH MAJORITE SUPPORT HELD ON
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TO NARBONNE. THE THREE OTHERS DRIFTED LEFT, LA CIOTAT
(APOLITICAL TO PC), CASTRES (MAJORITE TO UNION
DE LA GAUCHE), AND DECAZEVILLE (PS TO PC).

3. ENCUMBENT MAYORS AND THEIR LISTS PROBABLY WILL BE ABLE
TO RETAIN CONTROL OF SIX LARGER CITIES THAT WILL HAVE A SECOND
TOUR, NAMELY MARSEILLE (PS), AIX-EN-PROVENCE (PS), TOULON (A

MODERATE COALITION), ALBI (MAJORITE), CARCASSONNE (UNION DE LA GAUCHE), MENDE (APOLITICAL MAJORITE). IN ANOTHER FOUR CITIES GOING TO A SECOND ROUND MODERATE LISTS PROBABLY WILL WIN., I.E. PERPIGNAN (APOLITICAL), HYERES (RPR), ORANGE (MAJORITE), CARPENTRAS (MAJORITE). HOWEVER, THE PS IS COMING ON STRONG AT HYERES AND THE UNION PUSHES HARD IN ORANGE.

4. IN FIVE OTHER TOWNS THAT WILL HAVE A SECOND TOUR THE LISTS OF THE PREVIOUS LEADERS ARE UNDER SUCH STRONG ATTACK THAT A WIN BY ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER NOW SEEMS TOO CLOSE TO FORECAST. THESE ARE FREJUS (MAJORITE VS UNION DE LA GAUCHE), BEZIERS (MAJORITE VS UNION DE LA GAUCHE), RODEZ (MAJORITE UNION DE LA GAUCHE), MILLAU (MAJORITE VS SEVERAL GAUCHE GROUPS WHICH PROBABLY WILL COMBINE TO TAKE THE SECOND TOUR), AND MONTPELLIER (MAJORITE VS UNION DE LA GAUCHE).

5. COMPLETE INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE ON THE TWO REMAINING TOWNS COVERED BY OUR SURVEY, ALL BEING OF MODEST IMPORTANCE, NAMELY ST. CHELY D'APCHER AND LANGOGNE.

6. FULL REPORT FOLLOWS CONCLUSION OF SECOND TOUR. MEIMA

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